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Title : Need to clear the proposals of the Government of Kerala relating to development of tourism in the state.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): The immense potential of Kerala in the tourism sector is yet to be exploited. Trivendrum has excellent potential for all kinds of tourism products due to the climate, International Airport, health tourism including Ayurveda and all other facilities related to tourism.

In Kerala, tourism sector plays an important role in local economic development and contributes a significant share of the State economy. The tourism sector is identified as an alternative economic growth source for the State and the state capital, Trivandrum functions mostly as a transit point for domestic and foreign tourists.

The Kovalam-Poovar sector is fast growing as the tourism hub of the state. The proposal submitted by the State Government 1) for setting up of an International Convention Complex and 2) to declare the beach front of Poovar-Kovalam sector as a Tourism Economic Zone (both at Trivandrum) have not yet been considered favourably fro inexplicable reasons. I request hon'ble Minister of Tourism/ Commerce to sanction these projects and to formulate schemes in collaboration with the state Government to make the most of these nature's gifts.